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6 October 1970

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Operations Division, IEG

THROUGH : Chief, Technical Planning Branch, OD

SUBJECT : Meeting with NRO Regarding [REDACTED]

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1. On Thursday, 1 October 1970, a meeting was held in the office of Chief, WGD/IEG to discuss the [REDACTED] program. Those in attendance were: [REDACTED] from NRO; Messrs.

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4. NRO desires NPIC to take part in both testing and operational phases of the project. In fact, NRO is prepared to accept NPIC's opinion of the results of the exploitation as the basis for continuance or discontinuance of proposed satellite SLAR systems.

5. NRO will pay for all phases of this project including any training and travel required by NPIC for project support.

6. NRO expects NPIC to play a very large role in the entire program. In the immediate future (prior to January 1971), NPIC should select targets both in Cuba [REDACTED] to be covered by the proposed test and operational missions. NPIC should update SLAR training, if required, at NRO expense, [REDACTED] And NPIC, (really IEG) is expected to provide a short, informal briefing to a [REDACTED] (who works [REDACTED] on SLAR interpretation procedures as practiced at the Center.

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The NRO reps felt this was necessary to demonstrate to [REDACTED] that NPIC has the expertise required to interpret the imagery and provide the recommendations to NRO that will determine the future of SIAR.

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7. NPIC PIs would be expected to exploit the material on a very timely basis. Flight planning for each mission will be influenced by the results of the prior mission. Since, at the most, there will be only three days between missions, it is obvious that rapid exploitation is needed.

8. Flight planning over Cuba is envisioned as closely coordinated between NPIC, SAC and NRO with NPIC providing significant input.

9. There are only two signal converters (correlators) in the U.S. capable of processing support for this program. [REDACTED]

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Both are under contract to NRO. It is planned to use the [REDACTED] signal converter as primary with the [REDACTED] unit as a back-up. In order to be prepared to exploit the materials and appreciate their composition when they arrive at NPIC, it will be necessary to send NPIC PIs on TDY to Arizona for functional understanding of correlator. Also it may be necessary to have NPIC PIs in Arizona during operational missions. NRO will pay for this TDY.

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10. Any contractor support required by NPIC will be paid for by NRO.

11. We have asked NRO to provide us a precise schedule of flights, both test and operational, so that NPIC planning can be done more effectively. NRO has already provided a training proposal from [REDACTED] for our consideration.

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12. To summarize:

a) [REDACTED] - NRO funded.

b) Tests in January 1971, actual Cuban flights in March 1971.

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c) NPIC support required.

1. Target selection for both test and operational flights.

2. Flight planning for both test and operational flights.

3. PI support, possibly TDY, for both tests and operational flights.

4. Informal briefing for [REDACTED]

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5. Final report and recommendations on future of SLAR.

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d) NRO to provide proposed schedule [REDACTED]

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